

Kellan McNally, MSW, MA

School of Social Work
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EDUCATION

Candidate, Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work and Anthropology Wayne State University	2021–
Master of Arts, Medical Anthropology Boston University, School of Medicine	2019
Master of Social Work Simmons College	2011
Bachelor of Arts, Cultural Anthropology Boston University Summa Cum Laude	2007

RESEARCH SUPPORT & FUNDING

ACTIVE

2023–2027 **Graduate Research Assistant.** Wayne State University, School of Social Work; Supervisor: Amy C. Watson, PhD. Project include: national research on community behavioral health crisis response workforce development (CBHCR) supported by the National Alliance on Mental Illness, with a focus on credential development; contributions to the Sozosei Lab involving research synthesis and framework development to support national efforts to decriminalize mental illness; and a program evaluation of the Evanston CARE alternative response program.

COMPLETED

2025 **Researcher.** Reproducing photographic images from state mental hospital reports. Humanities Center, Wayne State University. Award: \$1,000.

2024–2025 **Researcher.** Complementary Approaches to Studying Patient

Labor with U.S. State Asylum and Hospital Reports.
Fraser Research Labor@Wayne, Wayne State University. Award: \$3,000.

2023–2024 **Researcher.** Competing Constructions of Labor Value: Representations of patient-workers in state mental hospital reports before 1970. Fraser Research Labor@Wayne, Wayne State University. Award: \$2,000.

2015–2018 **Study Clinician.** Collaborative Pathway for People with Early Psychosis (Phase II), Advocates and Boston University Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation, Framingham, MA and Boston, MA. Award: \$100,000, PI: Christopher Gordon, MD

2012–2014 **Study Clinician.** Collaborative Pathway for People with Early Psychosis (Phase I), Advocates and Boston University Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation, Framingham, MA and Boston, MA

KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT

PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Watson, A. C., **McNally, K.**, Pope, L. G., & Compton, M. T. (2026). Building the behavioral health crisis response workforce. *Psychiatric Services*, 77(3). <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ps.20250435>

McNally, K., Creswell Báez, J., & Goldkind, L. (2025). “Just Be More This TikTok Therapist”: A Narrative Inquiry of Social Workers’ Stories on the Influence of Social Media in Therapy. *Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Social Services*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/10443894251359325>

Wolf, L., **McNally, K.**, Glennon, A. S., Hubbard, T., & Goldkind, L. (2025). “The Background You Create Is Really Part of the Experience”: Exploring the Practices of Trauma-Informed Therapy in Virtual Space, a Qualitative Study. *Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Social Services*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/10443894251351380>

Watson, A. C., **McNally, K.**, Pope, L. G., & Compton, M. T. (2025). If not police, then who? Building a new workforce for community behavioral health crisis response. *Frontiers in Psychology: Psychology for Clinical Settings*, 16. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2025.1579787>

Wright, K., & **McNally, K.** (2025). Manufacturing an “Autism Crisis”: Critical

Reflections on the Kennedy Hearings and a Call for Disability Justice in Social Work. *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work*, 1–6. <https://doi.org/10.1080/26408066.2025.2486134>

McNally, K., Wright, K., Goldkind, L., Kattari, S. K., & Victor, B. G. (2024). Disability Expertise and Large Language Models: A Qualitative Study of Autistic TikTok Creators' Use of ChatGPT. *Social Media + Society*, 10(3). <https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051241279549>

Victor, B. G., **McNally, K.**, Qi, Z., & Perron, B. E. (2023). Construct-irrelevant variance on the ASWB clinical social work licensing exam: A replication of prior validity concerns. *Research on Social Work Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10497315231188305>

McNally, K. (2023). Able-bodied characters and the appeal of Medicaid work requirements in Arkansas. *Journal of Policy Practice and Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42972-023-00076-7>

Collin, C., Putney, J. M., Halmo, R., Caputo, A., Alves, J., **McNally, K.**, & Cadet, T. (2022). Responsive continuing education: Using a virtual platform to address substance use disorders in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Professional Development: The International Journal of Continuing Social Work Education*, 25(2), 32–37.

JOURNALS ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

Compton, M. T., Dua, R., **McNally, K.**, Pope, L. G., & Watson, A. C. (2026). How states leverage federal dollars to expand crisis services: Part 1: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) funding. *Psychiatric Services*.

Compton, M. T., Dua, R., **McNally, K.**, Pope, L. G., & Watson, A. C. (2026). How states leverage federal dollars to expand crisis services: Part 2: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funding. *Psychiatric Services*.

McNally, K. 2024. Less Pay, More Value: Argument for preserving disabled workers' subminimum wage. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*.

RESEARCH REPORTS

Watson, A. C., **McNally, K.**, Pope, L. G., & Compton, M. T., for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2026). Model Standards for Crisis Care Workers. Publication No. PEP25-07-017.

Compton, M. T., Dua, R., **McNally, K.**, Pope, L. G., & Watson, A. C. (2025). How states leveraged federal funding mechanisms in 2014–2024 to expand and enhance mental health crisis response and stabilization services. The Pew Charitable Trusts.

McNally, K., Watson, A. C., Pope, L. G., & Compton, M. T. (2025). A strategic research framework for decriminalizing mental illness. Sozosei Foundation.

Watson, A. C., **McNally, K.**, Pope, L. G., & Compton, M. T. (2024). Building the community behavioral health crisis responder workforce. National Alliance on Mental Illness.

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED

Victor, B. G., **McNally, K.**, & Wright, K. (2025, February). Current Trends in Artificial Intelligence for Social Work Education and Practice. Curriculum and Instruction Day, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

McNally, K., Richardson, S., & Stehr, A. (2023, June). Dual Degrees in Social Work. NASW Michigan Chapter Student Series, virtual format.

McNally, K. (2020, July). Low threshold behavioral health services for people with complex needs and distinctive preferences. Center for Innovation in Behavioral Health Education and Research (CIBER), Simmons University, Boston, MA, virtual format.

REFEREED

McNally, K. (2026). Reproducing State Asylum and Hospital Photographic Images. Poster presentation at Transformations 2026: Beyond Borders Conference, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

Watson, A. C., Pope, L. G., **McNally, K.**, & Compton, M. T. (2025, July). Is It Time for a New 1st Responder Role? Law Enforcement and Public Health Conference, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Watson, A. C., Pope, L. G., **McNally, K.**, & Compton, M. T. (2025, June). Health care, not handcuffs: Building a new skilled workforce for behavioral health crisis response. National Alliance on Mental Illness Annual Convention, virtual format.

McNally, K. (2025, January). 100-year-old reports and the development of social

work in state mental hospitals. Poster presented at the Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, Seattle, WA.

Watson, A. C., Pope, L. G., **McNally, K.**, & Compton, M. T. (2024, June). Shaping the future of crisis response workforce. National Alliance on Mental Illness Annual Convention, Denver, CO.

Wright, K., **McNally, K.**, Gholson, M., & Jackson, A. (2023, November). Digitized photographs of patient-workers in state asylums and hospitals of the United States. AAA/CASCA Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

SERVICE

REVIEWER FOR JOURNALS

Social Media + Society
Journal of Technology and Human Services

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP

2025 Co-Chair, Transformations Conference: Exploring Thought and Practice in Intersectionality. Anthropology Graduate Student Organization, Wayne State University

CLINICAL POSITIONS

2024– Clinical Social Worker, Kellan McNally, LLC; Michigan.
Partner with adults, couples, and families, centering relationships and shared understanding, prioritizing social support, and engaging psychiatric and behavioral health systems in support of informed, self-determined choices and alternatives to restrictive treatment.

2014–2025 Clinical Social Worker, private practitioner; Massachusetts
Partnered with adults, couples, and families, centering relationships and shared understanding, prioritizing social support, and engaging psychiatric and behavioral health systems in support of informed, self-determined choices and alternatives to restrictive treatment.

2018–2020 Behavioral Health Social Worker, Fenway Health; Boston, MA
Established and delivered same-day access behavioral health program for clients of a community health center. Provided clinical services consistent with accountable care responsibilities including coordination with

community partners, linkage to internal and external resources, and hospital/emergency department diversion.

- 2018–2020 Urgent Care Clinician, Harvard University/RCC; Cambridge, MA
Provided in-person and phone-based crisis intervention and support to Harvard University health plan members.

- 2016–2018 Site Director of Emergency Service Program, Advocates;
Waltham, MA. Managed a 24/7/365 behavioral health crisis intervention team serving an eighteen-town catchment area. Developed internship and clinical training programs.

- 2011–2016 Social Worker Supervisor, Advocates Emergency Service;
Waltham, MA. Provided intervention and clinical support during acute behavioral health and substance use crises, emphasizing network involvement and client autonomy.

- 2012–2016 Social Group Worker, Translate Gender, Inc.; Northampton, MA
Co-facilitated a bi-monthly support group for families with gender-diverse youth.

- 2013–2014 Clinical Social Worker, University of Massachusetts; Worcester, MA
Completed behavioral health crisis evaluations within an interdisciplinary emergency department team.

- 2010–2011 Clinical Social Work Intern, Fenway Health; Boston, MA
Provided individual assessment and psychotherapy services.

- 2009–2010 Social Work Intern, Academy of Physical and Social Development;
Newton, MA. Co-facilitated social skills groups for children diagnosed with autism spectrum and ADHD.

- 2008–2010 Mental Health Worker, Arbour Hospital; Jamaica Plain, MA
Provided direct care to patients hospitalized on a locked mental health unit.

POST-GRADUATE CLINICAL TRAINING

- 2016 Transcultural Psychiatry, Summer Institute Certificate, McGill University; Montreal, Quebec

- 2012 Open Dialogue and Dialogic Practice, Level One Certificate, Institute for Dialogic Practice; Haydenville, MA

2013 Open Dialogue and Dialogic Practice, Level Two Certificate,
Institute for Dialogic Practice; Haydenville, MA

HONORS AND AWARDS

2020 Promising Practices Developed During COVID-19”; National
Association of Community Health Centers

2019 Faces of our Future; National Association of Community Health
Centers

2018 Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program,
Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, Special Projects
Award: \$40,000

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS & CERTIFICATES

CREDENTIALS

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Michigan, 2024–active (MI license
#6801117641)
Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, Massachusetts, 2014–2025 (MA
license #118328)
Licensed Master of Social Work, New Mexico, 2020–2022 (NM license
#M-11338)

CERTIFICATES

Levels One and Two, Training in Open Dialogue and Dialogic Practice, Institute
for Dialogic Practice, Haydenville, MA